

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

It is proposed to amend claims 17 – 22 as discussed with Examiner Lee on April 1 and 3, 2008, namely:

(1) in each of the independent claims, that is claims 17-22, delete the expression “which is used particularly in an exhaust pipe spherical joint” as being indefinite and unnecessary, and

(2) in claims 18, 19, 21 and 22 to incorporate the structure of general formula (2) with associated description.

It is counsel’s understanding these amendments will place all claims in condition for allowance. If this is not the case or further information is needed please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: /Arthur R. Crawford/
Arthur R. Crawford
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:caw
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100